

Foundation has documented many other instances and reported them in its press releases.

TRIBUTE TO GUY THOMS

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to a remarkable public servant from my district. Sergeant Guy Thoms of Pueblo, Colorado recently retired from the Pueblo Police Department after twenty-nine years of service, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his many years of dedication to the citizens of Pueblo.

Guy embarked on his service to our country in the early 1970s when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He later served as a police officer in New York in 1974 where Guy served on the SWAT team until he relocated to Colorado. In 1978, Guy joined the Pueblo Police Department in the patrol division, where his mettle was steadily rewarded with promotions. In 1990, Guy was made a Sergeant and focused his efforts on combating the growing threat posed by gang violence in the region.

Guy's altruistic spirit extended beyond his official duties as a police officer and could be witnessed in his generosity towards his fellow officers. He donated portions of his vacation time to officers who were in need of time off due to injury and illness. Guy also served on the Pueblo Police Pension Board for many years.

Mr. Speaker, it is difficult to say goodbye to such a dedicated officer as Guy Thoms, and his hard work and determination will certainly be missed. The city of Pueblo has greatly benefited from its quality police force, a force that owes much of its success to officers like Guy. I thank him for his years of service and wish him all the best in the future.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 43rd anniversary of the Republic of Cyprus. It was on this day in 1960 that Cyprus became an independent republic after decades of British colonial rule.

I am very fortunate and privileged to represent Astoria, Queens—one of the largest and most vibrant communities of Greek and Cypriot Americans in this country.

It is truly one of my greatest pleasures as a Member of Congress to participate in the life of this community, and the wonderful and vital Cypriot friends that I have come to know are one of its greatest rewards.

This year, Cyprus' Independence Day occurs at a time of great hope for the people of Cyprus and significant advances in U.S.-Cyprus relations.

Since the last celebration of Cyprus Independence Day, Cyprus has experienced

events of major historic importance. On April 16, 2003, Cyprus signed the Accession Treaty to the European Union at a special ceremony in Athens, Greece. Cyprus is slated officially to join the EU in May 2004.

Later this month, we will welcome a new Ambassador of Cyprus, Mr. Euripides Evriadiades, a career diplomat with a distinguished record. He will succeed Ambassador Erato Kozakou-Marcoullis, who has left after five years of exemplary service during a remarkably eventful time for Cyprus and in our bilateral relations.

However, the commemoration of Cyprus' Independence Day this year, as in the past, is clouded by the fact that 37 percent of the Mediterranean island nation's territory continues to be illegally occupied by the Turkish military forces, in violation of UN Security Council resolutions.

Cyprus and the United States have a great deal in common. We share a deep and abiding commitment to democracy, human rights, free markets, and the ideal and practice of equal justice under the law.

In fact, Cyprus was among the first nations to express its solidarity with the United States immediately following the September 11th terrorist attacks. Cyprus has taken many concrete and active steps to target the perpetrators, collaborators and financiers of terrorism. For example, Cyprus has endorsed and implemented all resolutions and decisions of the U.N. Security Council, the EU and other International Organizations pertaining to the fight against terrorism.

Unfortunately, Cyprus is not without its own difficult history. 37 percent of this nation is still occupied by a hostile foreign power, and it has been for almost thirty years.

On July 20, 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus, and to this day continues to maintain an estimated 35,000 heavily armed troops. Nearly 200,000 Greek Cypriots, who fell victim to a policy of ethnic cleansing, were forcibly evicted from their homes and became refugees in their own country.

Despite the hardships and trauma caused by the ongoing Turkish occupation, Cyprus has registered remarkable economic growth, and the people living in the Government-controlled areas enjoy one of the world's highest standards of living. Sadly, the people living in the occupied area continue to be mired in poverty.

Earlier this year, the Turkish occupation regime partially lifted restrictions on freedom of movement across the artificial line of division created by Turkey's military occupation. Since then, hundreds of thousands of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots have crossed the UN ceasefire line to visit their homes and properties or areas of their own country that were inaccessible to them for nearly 30 years. The peaceful and cooperative spirit in the person-to-person, family-to-family interactions between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots bodes well for the successful reunification of Cyprus.

In the times we are facing, it is clear that divisions among people create harmful, destructive environments. The U.S. has expressed its unwavering support for a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem and I wholeheartedly agree. The relationship between Cyprus and the United States is strong and enduring. We stand together celebrating democracy and freedom, hopeful that a peaceful solution will

soon be negotiated and a united Cyprus will join the EU.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT MCCARROLL

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with solemn heart that I rise before you today to pay tribute to the life of Robert McCarroll of La Jara, Colorado. Robert was a dedicated county commissioner, member of his church and, above all, a family man. Robert was a pillar of the La Jara community, and as his family mourns his loss, I think it is appropriate that we remember his life and celebrate the work he did on behalf of others. I would like to pay tribute to this lifetime of service before this body of Congress and this Nation.

Robert served his country and his community in a variety of positions throughout his remarkable life. As a member of the Air Force during the Korean conflict, Robert served in Japan, Korea and Guam and is a member of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post.

Most recently, Robert served as a Conejos County Commissioner after being elected to his first term in 2000. After his retirement from his work in warehouses, Robert decided he needed to keep busy and that pursuing his interest in politics was the best way to do so. Robert was also a dedicated member of his church. Despite all of his associations and positions, his most impressive role was serving as a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to pay tribute to the life and memory of Robert McCarroll before you today. He was a truly outstanding citizen, and he will be missed by many in his community. It is with admiration, respect and a sense of sadness that I recount Robert's seventy-three years of life before this body of Congress. Although Robert has left us, his good-natured spirit lives on through the lives of those he touched. I would like to extend my thoughts and deepest sympathies to Robert's family and friends during this difficult time.

HONORING BISHOP ERNESTINE C. REEMS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bishop Ernestine C. Reems, Senior Pastor and Founder of Center of Hope Community Church for her lifetime of ministry and community service. She has served as a champion of faith and love for the congregation at the "Church for all People" in Oakland, California for 35 years.

Bishop Reems was the third child in a family of nine. She was stricken with tuberculosis at the age of thirteen and was ill for several years, but determined to live for God. Her foundation in ministry comes from her father, Bishop E. E. Cleveland. As a young adult, she traveled extensively as an evangelist with her brother, Reverend Elmer Cleveland. Although

women in the ministry were rare, Bishop Reems would not be denied and continues to follow her calling.

With little more than faith and a vision, the Center of Hope Community Church was founded in 1968 with four members. Today its membership exceeds 1500. Bishop Reems has a uniquely charismatic and humorous preaching style. Her sermons speak to people's hearts and are rich with poetic commentary, startling insights, and contemporary applications of the Bible's message. Her devotion is evidenced through a practice of intercessory prayer and fasting that has made her dear to the congregation of Center of Hope. In the audience, passionate praise, worship, and spontaneous dancing always punctuate her words.

The hallmark of Bishop Reems' ministry is her tireless compassion for people in need. Her non-judgmental attitude is one of the keys to her success in helping recovering drug addicts, prostitutes, prisoners, ex-prisoners, the homeless and others. Bishop Reems' drive is evident in her successful efforts to open a 56-unit senior housing complex, a 17-unit transitional housing program for homeless single women with children, and a 150-unit affordable housing complex. Additionally, she has founded a number of community-based services and is chairman of the boards of Hope Housing and Hope Development Corporations.

In 1988, Bishop Reems organized the E.C. Reems Women's International Ministries. Under her direction and leadership, its charter is to encourage and energize women to be active partners in the gospel and to work in their local churches. Each year the participation continues to exceed the previous year. E.C. Reems Women's International Ministries also organizes and hosts regional conferences around the USA.

She wrote two books, "Counting Everything as Joy!" and "Through the Storm." In addition to her ministerial duties, she is the loving mother of two sons, Brondon and Brian. Her husband Paul Reems passed away recently after 41 years of devoted marriage.

Finally as I honor Dr. Reems today, I want to thank her on behalf of the entire 9th Congressional District for being a great religious and community leader. Bishop Reems has shared her wisdom and provided me tremendous support. Most of all, I thank her for her friendship and prayers.

I take great pride in joining her friends, family, and members of the congregation to salute the extraordinary Bishop Ernestine Cleveland Reems.

TRIBUTE TO MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring recognition to one of the 20th century's greatest public servants, the Honorable Mother Teresa of Calcutta, whose birthday was August 27 and who will be beatified by Pope John Paul II in Rome on October 19, 2003. Her life was a steadfast devotion to providing needed assistance to the most destitute of her fellow neighbors.

Mother Teresa was born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu in Albania, August 26, 1910. She decided to become a Roman Catholic Sister at the tender age of 18. She left home to join a community of Irish nuns in Calcutta. Here she took the name 'Sister Teresa,' after Saint Teresa of Lisieux, the patroness of missionaries. She spent the following 17 years teaching and being principal of 500 students at St. Mary's High School.

In 1946, she fell ill with suspected tuberculosis and was sent to the town of Darjeeling to recover.

"It was in the train I heard the call to give up all and follow him to the slums to serve him among the poorest of the poor," she recalled. Pope Pius XII would later grant her permission to leave her order. She arrived in the slums of Calcutta to start a school for children. It was there that she was first addressed as Mother Teresa.

Her impact was mostly felt in her adopted home, Calcutta. Over time, the work of her order, the Missionaries of Charity would spawn a global network of homes for the poor reaching from Calcutta to New York, including one of the first homes of AIDS victims. Missionaries of Charity continues its service to this day in locales across the United States and throughout the world. By 1996, she was operating 517 missions in more than 100 countries.

Mother Teresa was a paradigm of humility. When Pope Paul VI gave her a white Lincoln Continental, she auctioned the car, using the money to establish a leper colony in West Bengal. Despite her humble nature, even she was not without critics for holding steadfast positions against abortion, divorce and war.

Mother Teresa was undeterred by criticism stating, "No matter who says what, you should accept it with a smile and do your own work."

After an increasing frequency of heart problems, she passed away on Sept. 5, 1997.

When asked how she managed to do all she did, Mother Teresa responded, "What matters is why you do it. If you do it out of duty or obligation, it will deplete you; but if you do it out of love, it will not; it will energize you."

These words should be taken to heart by all public servants, in the House of Representatives and beyond.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this Nation to pay tribute to a landmark institution from my district. The First United Methodist Church of Pueblo, Colorado has served its parishioners and our community for one hundred forty years. By working to promote a spirit of unity and co-operation, the church has shaped the Pueblo community for the better. For its many years of service to the people of Pueblo, I am honored to pay tribute to the First United Methodist Church here today.

Founded in 1863, the First United Methodist Church has worked tirelessly to meet the needs of its parishioners and the community

at large. Its work includes everything from promoting its missionary efforts to reaching out to less fortunate members of the community. First United Methodist is also active in the Pueblo Interfaith Hospitality Network, a program to house homeless families, and the Downtown Cooperative Care Center, a program to provide food, clothing, and assistance to the less fortunate.

Mr. Speaker, First United Methodist Church's efforts to meet the needs of the community and foster a spirit of generosity are an inspiration to us all. The church is the kind of institution that our community turns to for guidance and encouragement in their daily lives, and I am honored to join with my colleagues today in thanking the people of the First United Methodist Church for their tireless work.

TRIBUTE TO ZONIA SANDOVAL WALDON

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 2003

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the achievements and invaluable contributions of Zonia Sandoval Waldon over the last 30 plus years in Santa Clara County. Her dedication to families, adults and children has been laudable.

Born and raised in El Salvador, Zonia Waldon came to the United States at age eight and went to school in San Francisco and Daly City. She is a proud mother of twin sons and has resided in Santa Clara County most of her adult life.

Ms. Waldon began her career with the Social Services Agency in 1972 starting out as an eligibility worker—what was then referred to as the "blind unit." The unit was unique in that it combined the efforts of all staff members including eligibility, social workers and supervisors in resolving issues.

Learning to work well with people, both clients and staff, Ms. Waldon was given increasingly more responsible positions such as: Supervisor for General Assistance, Supervisor for Aid to Families with Dependent Children, and Supervisor for the Medi-Cal Unit at Valley Medical Center. Zonia's ability to "get the job done" led to her next assignment as District Office Manager of the East Valley Office of Social Services. Her role in management of facilities led to other managerial roles such as branching into labor management issues. She served as Steward, State Delegate, and Negotiator for the Union Local 535, SEIU. Zonia created the first Supervisory Chapter of Union Local 535. She was a co-founder and served as the first President of the Supervisory Chapter.

Other projects Zonia was involved with included a Family Preservation Pilot Project awarded by the State Department of Social Services. Highlights of accomplishments included: parent education, child respite care, counseling, development of Family Resource Centers, community-based child welfare services and community collaboratives. She also helped to initiate the Youth Leadership Gang Prevention Program funded by the State and the City of San Jose Mayor's Gang Task Force. This program currently serves youth